

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 IO-13 OMB-01 /111 W

-----311443Z 122760 /45

R 311230Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3515

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY SANA

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 0339

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SU

SUBJECT: NIMEIRI PRESS CONFERENCE

1. IN ADDITION TO HIS REMARKS ON ERITREA AND US ARMS SALES (SEPTELS; NOTAL) PRESIDENT NIMEIRI SPOKE ON SEVERAL OTHER ISSUES DURING WIDE-RANGING JAN 30 PRESS CONFERENCE. HE CRITICIZED QUOTE MINI-LEADERSHIP SOME COUNTRIES UNQUOTE (I.E. LARG, EPMG), WHOSE QUOTE DREAMS UNQUOTE FURTHER INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY (I.E. OF USSR) TO IMPOSE CONTROL OVER AREA. HE SAID EVENTS HERE LAST JULY AS WELL AS THOSE RECENTLY IN EGYPT INDICATE QUOTE ENEMIES UNQUOTE ARE SEEKING TO DISMANTLE GOS AND GOE. HE CALLED ON ARABS TO ASSIST EGYPT NOW AND REITERATED NEED FOR SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT AND SUDAN WORK CLOSELY IN ASSURING UNCLASSIFIED

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SECURITY OF RED SEA AREA. REFERRING TO NEXT MONTH'S TRIPARTITE SUMMIT HERE, NIMEIRI SAID EGYPT, SUDAN AND SYRIA WILL EMPHASIZE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION. HE SAID SADAT, ASSAD AND HE MAY GO TO SAUDI ARABIA TO MEET WITH KING KHALID FOLLOWING THEIR CONFERENCE IN KHARTOUM.

2. NIMEIRI REAFFIRMED SUDAN'S SUPPORT FOR DJIBOUTI

INDEPENDENCE. HE WARNED OF QUOTE NEIGHBORS UNQUOTE WHO INTEND UNDERMINE DJIBOUTI INDEPENDENCE AND PROMISED SUDANESE SUPPORT FOR DJIBOUTI AGAINST SUCH NEIGHBORS.

3. RE RELATIONS WITH USSR, NIMEIRI SAID ANY THIRD WORLD STATE MUST CONDUCT ITS RELATIONS WITH SUPERPOWERS WITH PRUDENCE AND CONTEMPLATION. DESPITE COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL RELATIONS, SUDAN REMAINS WARY OF SOVIET STRATEGIES QUOTE THAT CANNOT BE UNDERSTOOD OVERNIGHT UNQUOTE. SUDAN WANTS TO BENEFIT FROM RELATIONS WITH USSR BUT IT BEARS IN MIND THAT OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE ARE ACCOMPANIED WITH QUOTE CONCEALED AIMS UNQUOTE THAT INSTIGATE CAUTION. THEREFORE, NIMEIRI SAID, SUDAN'S RELATIONS WITH USSR ARE SLACKENING.

4. ONLY ITEM OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOME INTEREST MENTIONED BY NIMEIRI DURING PRESS CONFERENCE WAS HINT THAT PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MAY BE DISSOLVED. HE REFERRED TO RUMORS THAT SSU CONFERENCE WOULD ADOPT RECOMMENDATION CALLING FOR DISSOLUTION OF ASSEMBLY, AND INDICATED HE WOULD CONSIDER SUCH RECOMMENDATION AT TIME IT SUBMITTED TO HIM.

BREWER

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